

SA
19 October 1970

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director for Intelligence

SUBJECT : NY Times Report on Subversives
in GVN Government

1. The Neil Sheehan article (copy attached) ran in today's Times. The article is based on our publication ER IM 70-63, "Viet Cong Covert Agencies in South Vietnamese Territory." A copy of the IM and its distribution lists are attached.

2. We will prepare a more detailed comment on the Sheehan article later this morning. Some preliminary comments follow:

a. The figures reported by Sheehan on the various categories making up the 30,000 agents are accurate (see page 5 of the IM). The NYT article fails, however, to report important qualifications to the 30,000 figure (see paragraph 8 in the IM) suggesting that the number of hard core agents would be on the order of 10-20% or 3,000-6,000.

b. Most of the accounting by Sheehan seems to be a reasonably accurate reflection of the IM.

c. The White House apparently tried to say the IM was not "the formal position of the CIA." It was, however, a published memorandum coordinated with OCI, ONE and SAVA. It was also coordinated with DDP. However, you may recall that DDP later claimed that it understood it was coordinating a typescript memorandum for the White House and did not realize it was going to be published.

Deputy Director
Economic Research

Attachments:

1. As stated in para 1.
2. ER IM 70-63, Cy #167 (Specimen)

Distribution:

- Orig. & 1 - Addressee w/att.
- 2 - OD/OER w/o/ atts.
- 1 - DD/OER w/o/atts.
- ☒ 1 - Ch/D/I w/o/atts.

OD/OER: [REDACTED] 19 Oct 70)

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TRANSMITTAL SLIP		DATE 19 October 70
TO: Ch/D/I not FAP		
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REMARKS: 2-5767		
FROM: DD/OER		BY: 3
ROOM NO. 4-2-18	BUILDING Hq.	EXTENSION <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 50px; height: 20px; display: inline-block;"></div>
FORM NO. 241 1 FEB 55		REPLACES FORM 36-8 WHICH MAY BE USED. (47)

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